

State of South Carolina

May 25, 2011

David J. Mack III

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Committee:

Labor, Commerce and Industry

The Honorable Julius Genachowski, Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

Charleston County, South Carolina is a robust community of approximately 346,000 residents. It is predominately urban, with a diverse population (64 percent white, 31 percent African-American). However, we are not without our challenges, particularly in the rural areas of the county and among the poor in our community. Approximately 16 percent of our residents live in poverty, and many more struggle to provide for their families in these tough economic times and challenging and competitive job market.

As a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives representing District 109, and as former chair of the South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus, the communities I represent are primarily rural and communities of color. My constituents continuously voice their concerns about lack of access to wireless broadband services.

The proposed merger of AT&T and T-Mobile will mean that these constituents in underserved urban and rural areas will have access to greater mobile broadband coverage - meaning they will have greater access to information, resources and upward mobility.

Increased access, combined with the commitment of local government and community leaders to engage residents on the importance of strengthening digital skills, will be the key to economic growth and community empowerment.

Please join me in supporting this merger.

Sincerely,

David J. Mack III

Representative, District 109

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